AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. – 4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) A delaminatable laminated bottle comprising:

an outer layer bottle having a squeeze-deformable bottomed tubular body, a shoulder portion and a mouth portion connected to an upper edge of the body via the shoulder portion; and

an inner layer bag provided on an inner surface of the outer layer bottle and delaminatable from the outer layer bottle;

wherein the outer layer bottle has an introduction hole for introducing outside air into a space between the outer layer bottle and the inner layer bag;

wherein the body of the outer layer bottle has a flat tubular peripheral wall which includes a pair of generally flat front and rear wall portions spaced a predetermined distance in opposed relation and left and right wall portions respectively connecting left and right edges of the front wall portion to left and right edges of the rear wall portion, and has an anteroposterior thickness which is smaller than a lateral width thereof,

wherein the left and right wall portions each have an arcuate shape with an anteroposteriorly middle portion thereof bulged laterally outward,

wherein the body further has an upper connection portion which connects upper edges of the front and rear wall portions to the shoulder portion, and a lower connection portion which connects lower edges of the front and rear wall portions to a bottom portion thereof,

wherein the introduction hole is provided in one of the front wall portion and the rear wall portion,

wherein the introduction hole is adapted to be closed by a finger when the body is squeezed to be deformed by pressing the front and rear wall portions by the finger,

the front and rear wall portions having a thickness,

the left and right wall portions having a thickness,

the thicknesses of the front and rear wall portions and left and right wall portions selected so that: a) the front and rear wall portions can be pressed towards each other by squeezing forces applied by fingers of a user without being significantly warped; and b) the left and right wall portions are elastically deformable by the squeezing forces applied by the user's fingers to the front and rear walls to allow the front and rear walls to be moved towards each other.

6. (Original) A delaminatable laminated bottle as set forth in claim 5, wherein a check valve is absent in the introduction hole.

7. (Original) A delaminatable laminated bottle as set forth in claim 5, wherein the peripheral wall of the body of the outer layer bottle has a recess indented inward of the outer layer bottle or a protuberance projecting outward of the outer layer bottle, and the introduction hole is provided in the recess or the protuberance.

8. (Withdrawn) A production method for a delaminatable laminated bottle which includes an outer layer and an inner layer provided on an inner surface of the outer layer and delaminatable from the outer layer, the outer layer having an introduction hole for introducing air into a space between the outer layer and the inner layer, the method comprising the steps of:

injection-molding an outer layer preform;

injection-molding an inner layer preform inside the outer layer preform;

blow-molding the delaminatable laminated bottle from a laminate parison including the outer layer preform and the inner layer preform; and

performing a defective checking operation,

wherein the introduction hole is formed in the outer layer preform, and a test hole is formed in a mouth portion of the outer layer preform in the outer layer preform injection molding step,

wherein the inner layer preform is injection-molded with pins being inserted in the introduction hole and the test hole from an outer periphery of the outer layer preform and with distal ends of the pins being flush with an inner surface of the outer layer preform in the inner layer preform injection molding step,

wherein the parison is blow-molded with the introduction hole being located in a predetermined circumferential position with respect to a blow-molding mold in the blow molding step,

wherein air communication between the test hole and the introduction hole of the delaminatable laminated bottle produced by the blow molding is checked for detecting defectiveness of the introduction hole in the defective checking step.

9. (Withdrawn) A delaminatable laminated bottle production method as set forth in claim 8, wherein the air communication check is performed by introducing air from the test hole.

10. (Withdrawn) A delaminatable laminated bottle production method as set forth in claim 8, wherein the introduction hole of the outer layer preform has a diameter which is not greater than twice a thickness of a portion of the inner layer preform adjacent to the introduction hole.

11. (Withdrawn) A delaminatable laminated bottle production method as set forth in claim 8,

wherein the outer layer comprises an outer layer bottle having a squeeze-deformable bottomed tubular body, a shoulder portion and a mouth portion connected to an upper edge of the body via the shoulder portion,

wherein the inner layer comprises an inner layer bag provided on an inner surface of the outer layer bottle and delaminatable from the outer layer bottle,

wherein the introduction hole is provided in a peripheral wall of the body of the outer layer bottle,

wherein the blow-molding mold has a shape imparting surface which includes a shape imparting surface portion for forming a recess or a protuberance in a predetermined portion of the peripheral wall of the outer layer bottle including the introduction hole.

12. (Currently Amended) A delaminatable laminated bottle as set forth in claim 5, wherein [[the]] an average thickness of the front and rear wall portions is greater than [[the]] an average thickness of the left and right wall portions to allow the left and right wall portions to deform more readily than the front and rear wall portions as forces are applied by a user's fingers to move the front and rear wall portions together.

13. (Previously Presented) A delaminatable laminated bottle as set forth in claim 5, wherein the introduction hole is provided in a center portion of the one of the front wall portion and rear wall portion.

14. (Previously Presented) A delaminatable laminated bottle as set forth in claim 5, wherein the front wall portion is rearwardly recessed from the upper and lower connection portions.

15. (Previously Presented) A delaminatable laminated bottle as set forth in claim 5 wherein the rear wall portion is forwardly recessed from the upper and lower connection portions.

16. (Previously Presented) A delaminatable laminated bottle as set forth in claim 14 wherein the rear wall portion is forwardly recess from the upper and lower connection portions.

17. (Currently Amended) A delaminatable laminated bottle as set forth in claim 5 wherein at least one test hole, spaced ~~towards a bottom of the delaminatable laminated bottle~~ vertically from the introduction hole, communicates through the outer layer bottle into the space between the outer layer bottle and the inner layer bag.

18. (Previously Presented) A delaminatable laminated bottle as set forth in claim 17 wherein the at least one test hole is provided in the mouth portion.

19. (Currently Amended) A delaminatable laminated bottle as set forth in claim 17 wherein the mouth portion extends around an opening and the at least one test hole comprises first and second test holes at diametrically opposite locations with respect to the opening around which the ~~mount~~ mouth portion extends.

20. (Previously Presented) The delaminatable laminated bottle as set forth in claim 18 wherein the inner layer bag blocks the at least one test hole.

21. (Previously Presented) The delaminatable laminated bottle as set forth in claim 5 wherein the front and rear wall portions have a substantially uniform thickness fully between the left and right wall portions.

22. (New) A delaminatable laminated bottle comprising:

an outer layer bottle having a squeeze-deformable bottomed tubular body, a shoulder portion and a mouth portion connected to an upper edge of the body via the shoulder portion; and

an inner layer bag provided on an inner surface of the outer layer bottle and delaminatable from the outer layer bottle;

wherein the outer layer bottle has an introduction hole for introducing outside air into a space between the outer layer bottle and the inner layer bag;

wherein the body of the outer layer bottle has a flat tubular peripheral wall which includes a pair of front and rear wall portions that are either planar or slightly curved and spaced a predetermined distance in opposed relation and left and right wall portions respectively connecting left and right edges of the front wall portion to left and right edges of the rear wall portion, and has an anteroposterior thickness which is smaller than a lateral width thereof,

wherein the left and right wall portions each have an arcuate shape with an anteroposteriorly middle portion thereof bulged laterally outward,

wherein the body further has an upper connection portion which connects upper edges of the front and rear wall portions to the shoulder portion, and a lower connection portion which connects lower edges of the front and rear wall portions to a bottom portion thereof,

wherein the introduction hole is provided in one of the front wall portion and the rear wall portion,

wherein the introduction hole is adapted to be closed by a finger when the body is squeezed to be deformed by pressing the front and rear wall portions by the finger,

the front and rear wall portions having a thickness,

the left and right wall portions having a thickness,

the thicknesses of the front and rear wall portions and left and right wall portions selected so that: a) the front and rear wall portions can be pressed towards each other by squeezing forces applied by fingers of a user without being significantly warped; and b) the left and right wall portions are elastically deformable by the squeezing forces applied by the user's fingers to the front and rear walls to allow the front and rear walls to be moved towards each other,

wherein an average thickness of the left and right wall portions is less than an average thickness of the front and rear wall portions.

23. (New) The delaminatable laminated bottle according to claim 5 wherein the connection portion has a thickness and an average thickness of the connection portion is less than one half an average thickness of the front and rear wall portions.

24. (New) The delaminatable laminated bottle according to claim 22 wherein the connection portion has a thickness and an average thickness of the connection portion is less than one half an average thickness of the front and rear wall portions.